

icant ($p = 0.14$), a consistent beneficial effect was observed for all components of the combined end point (MI, death, stroke), with a significant reduction in the combined end point (2).

Dr. Eriksson also suggested that a potential negative effect of bleeding on life expectancy should have been incorporated into the model. Although bleeding may be associated with worse outcomes, the extent to which bleeding independently increases the risk of death (rather than being associated with other factors predictive of death) has not been established. Given the low baseline rate of bleeding in the CREDO trial, incorporating such an effect would have a negligible impact on our results in any case.

Finally, Dr. Eriksson postulated that the low compliance rate in the CREDO trial obscured the risk of bleeding. It is true that the risk of bleeding in the CREDO trial may have been underestimated because of the low compliance rate (~62%). By the same token, the benefits of treatment in the CREDO trial may also have been underestimated. Compliance also affects the cost of therapy. In the cost-effectiveness analysis, we adopted the conservative approach of assigning to the treatment group the full cost of clopidogrel (assuming full compliance), rather than the actual cost of clopidogrel based on the observed compliance rate in the CREDO trial.

In conclusion, we believe our analysis incorporates the best available estimates of the clinical effectiveness of long-term clopi-

dogrel therapy. We look forward to the results of the Clopidogrel for High Atherothrombotic Risk and Ischemic Stabilization, Management, and Avoidance (CHARISMA) study, which should further inform discussion regarding the value of long-term clopidogrel therapy.

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CORRECTION

Biagini E, Elhendy A, Schinkel AFL, Bax JJ, Rizzello V, van Domburg RT, Rapezzi C, Simoons ML, Poldermans D. Risk Stratification of Patients With Classic Angina Pectoris and No History of Coronary Artery Disease by Dobutamine Stress Echocardiography. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2004;46:730–2.

An author's name was printed incorrectly as Rizzello Vittoria, MD. The correct author's name is Vittoria Rizzello, MD. The authors regret this error.

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